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Docket No.: 048864-0030 PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Customer Number: 20277

Katsuaki TAJIMA, et al. : Confirmation Number: 9740

Application No.: 09/656,440 : Group Art Unit: 2625

Filed: September 06, 2000 : Examiner: Thierry L. Pham

For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

A Request for Continued Examination (RCE) of the above-referenced patent application is hereby made pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. It is respectfully requested that the RCE be approved.

Please charge the fee due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) to Deposit Account 500417. Along with this request, Applicant submits this amendment. Please amend the claims as set forth below.

Please amend claims 1 and 12 as set forth in the "Amendments to the Claims" on pages 2 and 3 of this response.